

ON A NEW SPECIES OF EUCALYPTUS FROM NORTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES.

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EUCALYPTUS DUNNII, sp.nov.

A large White Gum,* much resembling the Blue Gum (*E. saligna*) when growing (W. Dunn), therefore an erect grower. My specimens were taken from a tree 3 feet in diameter and 70 feet high (measured felled).

Bark.—Rough, flaky or more or less corky at the butt and for a varying distance up the stem; thenceforward the bark hangs in ribbons. “The rough bark or ribbons follow the tree up to the topmost branches, and the tree always carries more of it than does *E. saligna*” (W. Dunn).

Timber.—White throughout, from the sap to the heart, somewhat coarse-grained and fissile. Apparently a tough wood. Stress is laid on the quality of this timber, as the name White Gum usually indicates timber of poor quality. Mr. Dunn writes: “I prefer this timber to that of our local Blue Gum (*E. saligna*), the White Gum being not so free, *i.e.*, not so liable to split. It is the best White Gum I have ever seen, being very free from gum veins.” On asking for verification of the above high estimate of the timber, Mr. Dunn wrote under date 4th June: “Yesterday I measured another 14,000 super. feet of it. I may say without hesitation that it is very durable, and superior

* “Recently I measured 15 of these trees, felled for sawmill timber, containing 28,523 super. feet; this, at the small royalty of 6d. per 100 super. feet, amounted to £7 2s. 7d.” (W. Dunn, 30-iv.-05).

to the *E. saligna* that grows here. [The local *saligna* appears to be of average quality—J.H.M.] I again interviewed one of the saw-millers who is sawing some of it, and was informed by him that the White Gum *will keep*, and he intends to lay in a stock of it. The logs will not crack with the sun like Blue Gum does; altogether it is a tougher timber than Blue Gum, and it becomes pretty hard when it is exposed to the sun for a year or two. It is used for general building purposes, joists, rafters, etc.”

Juvenile foliage.—Nearly cordate to broadly lanceolate (often up to 4 inches long and 2 inches wide while still in the opposite stage); petioles thin, and usually from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. Texture thin, undulate. Bright green, paler on the underside; oil-dots abundant, the midrib conspicuous (particularly on the underside), the primary veins roughly parallel, and at an angle of about 45° with the midrib; intramarginal vein at some distance from the edge.

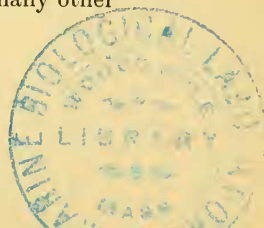
Mature foliage.—Lanceolate leaves with petioles of an inch and more; 6 inches and more in length, with a usual breadth at the widest part of 1 to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Of medium texture; oil-dots abundant. Midrib very conspicuous (white); penniveined; intramarginal vein well removed from the edge. The mature leaves resemble those of the well-known *E. tereticornis* a good deal. Twigs often angular. I expect this species will yield a good percentage of oil.

Buds.—Symmetrical in shape, the operculum conical, and the calyx of similar size and shape, tapering into the rather short pedicel.

Flowers.—Rather small; usually 3 to 5 in the umbel; anthers with parallel cells.

Fruits.—Hemispherical, barely $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter, abruptly tapering into a pedicel of the same length. Peduncle of about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. Rim narrow and rather sharp, valves well exerted and mostly 4 in the specimens seen.

Affinities.—Its closest affinity would appear to be with *E. Deanei* Maiden. The juvenile foliage of the two species is often remarkably similar in texture, shape, and apparently many other



respects. The valves of the fruits of *E. Deanei* are not exserted, or but slightly so, while the timbers are sharply different, that of *E. Deanei* being red.

Certainly *E. propinqua* Deane and Maiden, is a species with which it might be confused with herbarium specimens alone (the bark of *E. propinqua* is grey and patchy, and the timber red).

The leaves of *E. propinqua* have finer and more parallel veins, but in buds, flowers and fruits the resemblance of the two species is sufficiently close to necessitate caution.

The similarity of the leaves of *E. Dunnii* to those of *E. tereticornis* is often marked, as has already been noted.

Hab.—Acacia Creek, Macpherson Range, New South Wales side. Extends into Queensland territory, “but I do not believe it is found north of the Condamine River” (William Dunn, Forest Guard; specimen No. 88).

“As a rule it is found on the lower lands, on rich volcanic soil, along the banks of water-courses and the like. There is a good deal in the district, but I do not know any other district where it grows” (W. Dunn). It would appear desirable to search for further localities for this apparently very desirable timber.

The species is named in honour of William Dunn, Forest Guard, Acacia Creek, who first sent it; and who has assiduously collected the forest flora of his district.